Workshops

This document contains both the English and Spanish Workshops with brief descriptions as well as more detailed descriptions.

Please review the workshops prior to registering and make note of the Workshop Numbers for sessions you would like to attend. You will be asked for these numbers during registration.
# Marriage Summit Workshops

## At-A-Glance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop Number: 01</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Title:** The Spiritual Mindset of Millennials – Engaging the Next Generation  
**Presenter:** Presenter: Frank Mercadante, Founder and Executive Director of Cultivation Ministries  
**Target Audience:** Target Audience for Summit: All, especially DRE’s/CRE’s, Youth Ministers, Elementary and HS Principals, Religion teachers/department heads, Priests and Deacons, Pastoral Associates |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop Number: 02</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Title:** Not your Mom’s NFP (Natural Family Planning)  
**Presenter:** Kait Mayer, Creighton Model Fertility Care intern with the Pope Paul VI Institute for the Study of Human Reproduction  
**Target Audience:** Target Audience: Pre-Cana teams, Youth Ministers, Young Adult Ministers, Baptism Prep Teams, RCIA Teams, Priests and Deacons, Pastoral Associates |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop Number: 03</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Title:** Becoming a Marriage-Building Catholic Parish  
**Presenters:** Lorrie and Don Gramer, Founders of Marriage Building/Construyendo Matrimonios USA  
**Target Audience:** All |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop Number: 04</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Title:** Real Help for Troubled Marriages  
**Presenters:** Rich and Annette Colasuonno & Tom and Pat Gallo, Retrouvaille Team Couples, Diocese of Metuchen  
**Target Audience:** Priests, Deacons, Marriage Ministry teams, Pastoral Associates, Pre-Cana teams |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop Number: 05</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Title:** The Ministry of First Impressions  
**Presenters:** Sr. Mary Agnes Ryan, IHM, Director of Evangelization and Catechesis & Doreen Griffin-Gallway, Administrative Assistant, Department of Evangelization & Catechesis and former parish secretary, Our Lady of Sorrows-St. Anthony Parish, Hamilton, NJ.  
**Target Audience:** Parish staff members, especially Parish secretaries, Priests, Deacons, RCIA teams, Baptism Prep and Marriage Preparation ministers, Pre-Cana teams, Pastoral Associates |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop Number: 06</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Title:** Long Before the Engagement Ring – Why Marriage Preparation Begins in Childhood  
**Presenter:** Linda Richardson, former Director of Department of Youth, Marriage and Family Life, Diocese of Trenton  
**Target Audience:** DRE’s, CRE’s, Catechists, Religion Teachers and Department Heads, Elementary and High School Principals, Youth Ministers, Young Adult Ministers, Priests, Deacons, Pastoral Associates. |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop Number: 07</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title:</strong> Using Mentor Couples for Marriage Preparation - Why it’s so Effective</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Presenter:</strong> Mary-Rose Verret, Director of Marriage &amp; Family Life at St. Joseph Church in Cecilia, LA.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Target Audience:</strong> Priests, Deacons, Pastoral Associates, RCIA teams, Marriage Ministry teams, Pre-Cana teams</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop Number: 08</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title:</strong> Teaching the Truth in Love – A Pastoral Response to Non-Traditional Family Situations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Presenter:</strong> Deanna Sass, Director of Pastoral Care, Diocese of Trenton</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Target Audience:</strong> Priests, Deacons, Parish Staff members, Pastoral Associates, Youth Ministers, Young Adult Ministers, Marriage Ministry Teams</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop Number: 09</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title:</strong> Catholic Marriage FAQ’s</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Presenter:</strong> Msgr. Sam Sirianni, Director of the Office of Worship and Pastor of St. Robert Bellarmine Parish, Freehold, NJ.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Target Audience:</strong> All</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop Number: 10</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title:</strong> Five Ways to Better Engage Your Audience</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Presenter:</strong> Tom Fertal, President of Cardinal O’Hara High School, Springfield, PA.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Target Audience:</strong> Priests, Deacons, RCIA teams, Baptism Prep teams, Marriage Ministry Teams, Pre-Cana teams, Pastoral Associates</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop Number: 11</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title:</strong> Convalidation Strategies - How to Bring Civil Marriages Into the Church</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Presenter:</strong> Msgr. Rich LaVergghetta, Pastor of St. Joan of Arc Church, Marlton, NJ</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Target Audience:</strong> Priests, Deacons, Pastoral Associates, RCIA teams, Baptism Prep teams, Marriage Ministry teams</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop Number: 12</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title:</strong> Marriage Ministry Among the Hispanic Community</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Presenter:</strong> Lucía Báez Luzondo, Lucía and her husband, Ricardo, serve as Directors of Hispanic Outreach providing retreats, workshops, concerts and conferences.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Target Audience:</strong> All</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop Number: 13</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title:</strong> The Parent-Parish Partnership – Passing a Living Faith to the Next Generation</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Presenter:</strong> Dan Mulhall, Director, Professional Development and Hispanic Catechesis, RCL Benziger</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Target Audience:</strong> Priests, Deacons, Religion Coordinators, DRE’s/CRE’s, Grade School Principals, Pastoral Associates</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Workshop Number: 14 | Title: Understanding Marriage through the Lens of the Theology of the Body (TOB)  
**Presenter:** David Hajduk, Adjunct Professor of Systematic Theology at Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology  
**Target Audience:** All |
| --- | --- |
| Workshop Number: 15 | Title: The FOCCUS Pre-Marital Inventory – A Key Element in the Marriage Preparation Process  
**Presenter:** Deacon Dennis Slavin and Deacon Kevin O’Boyle, Certified FOCCUS Facilitators  
**Target Audience:** Priests, Deacons, Marriage Min teams, Pastoral Assoc. Pre-Cana teams |
| Workshop Number: 16 | Title: Staying Connected with Newly Married Couples  
**Presenter:** Marie Ryan, former Family Life Director, Diocese of Paterson, and Eniola Honsberger, Paterson’s current Director of Family Life  
**Target Audience:** Priests, Deacons, Pastoral Associates, Marriage Ministry Teams, Pre-Cana Teams, RCIA Teams, Baptism Prep Teams |
| Workshop Number: 17 | Title: The Good News About Catholic Marriage – Changing the Course of the Conversation  
**Presenter:** Deacon Jim Grogan, Leader of Retreats for Married Couples  
**Target Audience:** All |
| Workshop Number: 18 | Title: How to Recruit Great Ministry Volunteers  
**Presenter:** Fr. Marty McGeough, Coordinator of Prison Ministry  
**Target Audience:** Priests, Deacons, Pastoral Associates, Pre-Cana teams, Marriage Ministry Teams |
| Workshop Number: 19* | Title: The Face of the Catholic Family (Part 1 of 2)*  
**Presenter:** Michael Theisen (Strong Catholic Families: Strong Catholic Youth), Director of membership services for the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry.  
**Target Audience:** All |
| Workshop Number: 20* | Title: The Face of the Catholic Family (Part 2 of 2)*  
**Presenter:** Michael Theisen (Strong Catholic Families: Strong Catholic Youth), Director of membership services for the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry.  
**Target Audience:** All |
| Workshop Number: 21 | Title: Marketing 101 – Insights for Catholic Parishes  
**Presenter:** Dr. John Lord, Department Chair of Sports Marketing and Entertainment, Haub School of Business, St. Joseph’s University, Philadelphia  
**Target Audience:** Priests, Deacons, Pastoral Associates, Parish Staff members |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop Number: 22</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title:</strong> Preaching the Good News of Catholic Marriage</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Presenter:</strong> Fr. Tom Dailey, Doctor of sacred theology (S.T.D.) from the Pontifical Gregorian University (Rome)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Target Audience:</strong> Priests</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop Number: 23</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Title:</strong> Healing Wounded Relationships – Embracing the Paschal Mystery in Marriage</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Presenter:</strong> Fr. Martin Padovani, SVD, Author &amp; sought-after speaker on relationships and parenting</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Target Audience:</strong> Priests, Deacons, Pastoral Associates, Parish Staff members, Marriage Ministry teams, Pre-Cana Teams</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Detailed Workshop Descriptions

Workshop Number: 01

Title: The Spiritual Mindset of Millennials – Engaging the Next Generation

Presenter: Frank Mercadante; Frank is the founder and Executive Director of Cultivation Ministries. He received a BA in Christian Education from Wheaton College and a MPS from Loyola University of Chicago. Since 1991, Frank has trained thousands of youth ministry leaders in over 100 dioceses internationally. He has written numerous youth ministry resources, including Growing Teen Disciples (SMP 2002), Positively Dangerous (SMP 2003), Make It Real (SMP 2004), and Engaging A New Generation (OSV 2012). Frank is the 2008 recipient of the National Youth Ministry Award in Training from the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry. Frank is married with six children.

Description: What should we know about the next generation of Catholics to help us minister to them? How do we make Catholic marriage attractive for our youth and young adults? This breakout looks at why we are losing our teens and young adults and what we can do about it. The best way to convince young adults to marry Catholic is to build a Church that truly reaches them. When they feel at home and connected, they will want to celebrate the sacrament of marriage within the Church.

Target Audience: Target Audience for Summit: All, especially DRE’s/CRE’s, Youth Ministers, Elementary and HS Principals, Religion teachers/department heads, Priests and Deacons, Pastoral Associates

Workshop Number: 02

Title: Not your Mom’s NFP (Natural Family Planning)

Presenter: Kait Mayer; Kait started her internship with the Pope Paul VI Institute for the Study of Human Reproduction in October of 2013 and hopes to complete it this spring. As part of her education, she is already instructing women and couples in the Creighton Model System. She works full time at St. Paul Parish in Princeton, coordinating Youth and Young Adult Ministry in addition to Confirmation. She and her husband, Bryan, currently reside at St. Alphonsus in Hopewell where they serve as Pastoral Associates.

Description: The big reveal on today’s Natural Family Planning and why it appeals to young adults: this breakout will highlight the essentials of NFP such as understanding biomarkers of fertility, taking control of gynecological health, understanding the power and privilege of co-creation with God, enhancing marital communication, and being proactive about fertility issues. Strategies for building awareness of NFP in the high school, youth and young adult ministry setting will be discussed.
Target Audience: Target Audience: Pre-Cana teams, Youth Ministers, Young Adult Ministers, Baptism Prep Teams, RCIA Teams, Priests and Deacons, Pastoral Associates

**Workshop Number: 03**

**Title:** Becoming a Marriage-Building Catholic Parish

**Co-Presenters:** Lorrie and Don Gramer; After 5 years of full-time parish and 30 years of diocesan ministry, Lorrie & Don Gramer founded Marriage Building/Construyendo Matrimonios USA in early 2014 to intensify the marriage-building efforts in the Catholic Church. While working to implement the US Bishops Pastoral Initiative for Marriage in the Diocese of Rockford, they served in leadership for the National Association of Catholic Family Life Ministers (NACFLM), and chaired the Pastoral Implementation Committee (PIC) for the Marriage Initiative. They were instrumental in developing a pastoral strategy for the National Pastoral Initiative for Marriage using 8 Building Blocks that help to better define the areas that foster a marriage-building Parish.

**Description:** This breakout provides an overview of the *Eight Building Blocks for a Marriage-Building Parish*, developed for the national campaign to strengthen marriage in response to the U.S. Bishop’s National Pastoral Initiative for Marriage. The breakout includes practical tools and strategies to promote a marriage-building culture in every aspect of parish life.

**Target Audience:** All

---

**Workshop Number: 04**

**Title:** Real Help for Troubled Marriages

**Presenters:** Rich and Annette Colasuonno (& Tom and Pat Gallo) serve in the Diocese of Metuchen as active members of the Retrouvaille ministry (a lifeline for troubled marriages). The Metuchen Retrouvaille team has helped numerous couples work through difficult marital situations, even couples on the brink of divorce, by providing life-changing weekend healing experiences, follow-up sessions and an on-going community of support. Rich and Annette serve on the weekend retreat team while Tom and Pat are involved in follow-up and on-going support.

**Description:** This session will explore the common causes of marital discord and provide real hope that with proper intervention, marriages on the brink of divorce can be saved. Couples who’ve successfully rebuilt their marriages will share the process of self-awareness, accountability, re-adjusting expectations, reconciliation and forgiveness that must take place for a marriage to begin again. As one of the most successful programs for saving Catholic marriages, the “Retrouvaille Weekend” concept will be discussed along with other ways that parishes can assist couples struggling in their marriage.

**Target Audience:** Priests, Deacons, Marriage Ministry teams, Pastoral Associates, Pre-Cana teams
**Workshop Number: 05**

**Title:** The Ministry of First Impressions

**Presenters:** Sr. Mary Agnes Ryan, IHM, & Doreen Griffin-Galway; Sister Mary Agnes is a Sister, Servant of the Immaculate Heart of Mary of Immaculata, PA. She is currently the Director of the Department of Evangelization & Catechesis for the Diocese of Trenton. She has been a Pastoral Associate in the Diocese of Raleigh as well as the Assistant to the Office of Divine Worship. Sister has been a Parish DRE in three different parishes in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia; the Director of Elementary Religious Education for the Archdiocese of Philadelphia; Coordinator of Adult Religious Education at the IHM Ministry Center in Philadelphia; and, a Catholic Elementary School Teacher in the Archdiocese of Philadelphia and in the Dioceses of Camden, Miami, and Atlanta.

Doreen Griffin-Galway is the Administrative Assistant of the Department of Evangelization & Catechesis and former parish secretary of Our Lady of Sorrows Parish-St. Anthony Parish, Hamilton, NJ, where she served for 9 years. The mother of two young adults, Doreen is very involved with parish ministry in her home parish of St. Gregory the Great in Hamilton Square. She is a lector, EMHC, and Coordinator of Elizabeth Ministry as well as a second grade Catechist.

**Description:** You only get one chance to make a good first impression. While every baptized Catholic is a disciple of Christ, those who minister to fellow Catholics have a special privilege. In many ways they are the face of Christ and His Church for those they encounter in their daily work. This breakout discusses the basics of welcoming as a key to evangelization, and offers specific ways to respond effectively to those inquiring about Catholic marriage.

**Target Audience:** Parish staff members, especially Parish secretaries, Priests, Deacons, RCIA teams, Baptism Prep and Marriage Preparation ministers, Pre-Cana teams, Pastoral Associates

**Workshop Number: 06**

**Title:** Long Before the Engagement Ring – Why Marriage Preparation Begins in Childhood:

**Presenter:** Linda Richardson; Linda recently retired as the Director of the Department of Youth, Marriage and Family Life for the Diocese of Trenton. Prior to diocesan ministry, she spent more than 20 years as an Early Childhood Educator, including 11 years as director of a parish preschool. She holds a Masters in Public Administration from Seton Hall University and a Masters in Theology and Ministry from LaSalle University. She was selected to serve on the Diocese of Trenton Study Commission for Marriage from 2013 to 2014. Currently, Linda teaches religious education and baptism preparation and is part of the Women’s Retreat Committee of her parish, and maintains her passion for marriage and family ministry.
**Description:** The family plays a vital role in shaping individuals for their adult vocation. This breakout will examine the different stages of preparation for the vocation of marriage (remote, proximate and immediate preparation), beginning with infant baptism through childhood, adolescence and young adulthood, and offer practical ways the parish can work with parents through each major phase of their children’s development toward a mature Catholic faith and lifelong vocation.

**Target Audience:** DRE’s, CRE’s, Catechists, Religion Teachers and Department Heads, Elementary and High School Principals, Youth Ministers, Young Adult Ministers, Priests, Deacons, Pastoral Associates.

**Workshop Number:** 07

**Title:** Using Mentor Couples for Marriage Preparation - Why it’s so Effective

**Presenter:** Mary-Rose Verret; Mary-Rose Verret is a Marriage Educator and a certified Prepare-Enrich Facilitator and Instructor. She is the Founder of "Witness to Love: Marriage Prep Renewal Ministry." She is currently the Director of Marriage and Family Life at St. Joseph Parish in Cecilia, LA. She has worked over nine years in Marriage Ministry for the Diocese of Arlington, Virginia, the Diocese of Lafayette, Louisiana and St. Joseph Church. During this time she has personally worked with hundreds of engaged and married couples, both one on one and in a conference setting. She has been interviewed by local media on the Catholic Church's teaching on Health Care Reform and numerous Marriage and Family Life issues and is a frequent guest on Catholic Radio for Acadiana. Mary-Rose and her husband Ryan appeared on EWTN's Life on the Rock.

**Description:** Learn how you can use the marriage prep process to renew your parish by allowing married couples within your parish to become mentors for your engaged or civilly married couples. By teaching married couples to share their marriage with others you not only strengthen the engaged couple's relationship but you also deepen and nurture the mentor couple's marriage. We will share stories of success and the fruits of our engaged couples and their mentors who now go to Mass together, pray together and even enjoy discussing Theology of the Body! This talk is starting point for parishes that want to welcome engaged couples into parish life by building a support system for them as a part of their marriage prep. This is not just a program but system for renewal that will help enhance the current offerings that a parish, or diocese, already has in place.

**Target Audience:** Priests, Deacons, Pastoral Associates, RCIA teams, Marriage Ministry teams, Pre-Cana teams
**Workshop Number: 08**

**Title:** Teaching the Truth in Love – A Pastoral Response to Non-Traditional Family Situations

**Presenter:** Deanna Sass; Deanna is the Director of the diocesan Department of Pastoral Care. She is a NJ State Licensed Counselor, as well as being certified in Spiritual Direction, Ignatian Retreats, Myers-Briggs Personality Type Indicator and Grief and Bereavement Counseling. Deanna has ministered in a variety of settings in the church for more than 25 years, including having co-founded the Institute for Lay Ecclesial Ministry, worked as a parish Pastoral Associate, taught college Theology, ministered as a hospital chaplain, was a Catholic high school religion teacher and a college campus minister. She holds a BA in Theology an MA in Pastoral Ministry/Pastoral Counseling, and an MA in Clinical Counseling-Psychology.

**Description:** This breakout confronts difficult situations head-on by integrating Church teaching with a pastoral approach that effectively addresses divorce, remarriage, same-sex attraction and other contemporary cultural challenges in the education/formation setting.

**Target Audience:** Priests, Deacons, Parish Staff members, Pastoral Associates, Youth Ministers, Young Adult Ministers, Marriage Ministry Teams

---

**Workshop Number: 09**

**Title:** Catholic Marriage FAQ’s

**Presenter:** Monsignor Sam Sirianni; Msgr. Sam Sirianni was ordained a priest of the Diocese of Trenton in 1984. Monsignor Sirianni has been stationed in 9 parishes throughout the Diocese as a parish priest. He was appointed pastor of Saint Robert Bellarmine in Freehold Township in December, 2008. In April of 2009, Pope Benedict XVI named him a Chaplain to His Holiness with the title of Monsignor. Monsignor Sirianni has served the Diocese as Director of the Office of Worship for the past 21 years. He assists the Bishop in his role as Liturgist for the Diocese of Trenton. Monsignor Sirianni and his staff act as Liturgical consultants to all the parishes, diocesan offices and various church-related institutions and agencies.

**Description:** Who can have a Catholic wedding? Why must Catholic weddings follow a particular form? Why must Catholic weddings take place in a church? Why does the Church require so much marriage preparation? This breakout provides practical answers to the most commonly asked questions about Catholic marriage in non-church language for the average Catholic parishioner, a must for all who represent the Catholic Church.

**Target Audience:** All
**Workshop Number: 10**

**Title:** Five Ways to Better Engage Your Audience

**Presenter:** Thomas S. Fertal; Tom was named president of Cardinal O’Hara High School in Springfield, PA, in June, 2014. He previously served in various leadership roles in the Diocese of Harrisburg since 1996, including principal at Lancaster Catholic High School since 2010. He holds a master’s in restorative practices and education and is currently pursuing his doctorate in leadership from Alvernia University in Reading. A devout Catholic, Tom is a charter member and past grand knight of the Knights of Columbus Council 15028 in Elizabethtown, Pa. He is also a three-time presenter at the National Conference on Catholic Youth Ministry and a two-time global presenter on the topic of leadership at the International Leadership Association and International Institute for Restorative Practices.

**Description:** This breakout provides techniques and tools for those who offer marriage preparation workshops, couple retreats and marriage enrichment programs. Participants will learn the most effective ways to connect to their audience using such adult learning principals as how to incorporate small group processing and sharing, how to include a variety of learning methods (visual, auditory and kinesthetic), and how to write and deliver a compelling witness talk out of your own experience.

**Target Audience:** Priests, Deacons, RCIA teams, Baptism Prep teams, Marriage Ministry Teams, Pre-Cana teams, Pastoral Associates

---

**Workshop Number: 11**

**Title:** Convalidation Strategies- How to Bring Civil Marriages Into the Church

**Presenter:** Msgr. Richard LaVerghetta; Ordained to the priesthood in 1986, Father LaVerghetta served as Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry for the Diocese of Trenton from 1991 through 1995, and taught Homiletics as an adjunct professor at Seton Hall University in South Orange, New Jersey, from 1995 through 1997. Fr. LaVerghetta served as pastor of St. Gregory the Great Parish in Hamilton Square, NJ, from 1995 to 2007. He was named the third pastor of St. Joan of Arc Parish in Marlton, NJ, in 2007. Monsignor LaVerghetta is a gifted speaker, retreat master and homilist whose leadership style emphasizes welcoming and evangelization. He was selected to serve on the Diocese of Trenton Study Commission for Marriage from 2013 to 2014.

**Description:** This breakout addresses the growing phenomenon of couples marrying outside the Church by offering practical ways to identify, reach out, invite, evangelize and prepare couples in civil marriages for valid Catholic marriage.

**Target Audience:** Priests, Deacons, Pastoral Associates, RCIA teams, Baptism Prep teams, Marriage Ministry teams
**Workshop Number: 12**

**Title:** Marriage Ministry Among the Hispanic Community

**Presenter:** Lucía Báez Luzondo, Lucia and her husband, Ricardo, serve as Directors of Hispanic Outreach for Marriage-Building USA, providing retreats, workshops, concerts and conferences in the area of marriage and family life, evangelization and leadership formation focused on Hispanics in the United States, Latin America and Europe. They are international conference speakers and singers, authors and co-founders of Renovacion Familiar Ministries. Lucia served as Director of Marriage and Family Life Ministry at the Archdiocese of Miami from 2011 until 2013. Lucia and her husband are instrumental in the marriage initiative for the U. S. Conference of Catholic Bishops; she has been invited by the Pontifical Council on the Family to be a presenter at the World Meeting of Families.

**Description:** This workshop will offer practical insight into the Hispanic Catholic experience by examining attitudes, practices and expectations that impact the practice of the Catholic faith. According to Boston College’s recent “National Study of Catholic Parishes with Hispanic Ministry,” 40 percent of U. S. Catholics are Hispanic, yet only 25 percent of Catholic parishes intentionally serve Hispanics. This session will identify the most effective ways to minister to Hispanic couples through welcoming, outreach and community involvement, and will discuss the unique challenges faced by Hispanic Catholics and other immigrant communities. Presented in English, this session will be of particular interest to non-Hispanic ministers.

**Target Audience:** All

---

**Workshop Number: 13**

**Title:** The Parent-Parish Partnership – Passing a Living Faith to the Next Generation

**Presenter:** Dan Mulhall, Director, Professional Development and Hispanic Catechesis, RCL Benziger. Dan has worked in the field of catechetical ministry for more than 30 years at the parish, diocesan, and national levels. Before joining RCL Benziger, he served as Assistant Secretary for Catechesis and Inculturation for U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. Dan is the 2008 recipient of the Emmaus Award presented by the National Association of Parish Catechetical Directors. He wrote *Best Practices in Catechist Formation* in 2001 and is a regular contributor to Catholic News Service’s “Faith Alive” series. Currently, he is the co-editor of a book series called the *Pastoral Spirituality Series* published by Paulist Press.

**Description:** This session gives practical ideas and resources for parishes to assist parents as the first and most important teachers of the faith, and to acknowledge that families are the domestic church where family members grow in discipleship. The breakout will offer strategies to cultivate parent-teacher and parent-catechist partnerships to maximize the effectiveness of the Benziger Family Life program for Catholic School and Religious Education students and their families.
Target Audience: Priests, Deacons, Religion Coordinators, DRE’s/CRE’s, Grade School Principals, Pastoral Associates

Workshop Number: 14

Title: Understanding Marriage through the Lens of the Theology of the Body (TOB)

Presenter: David Hajduk; David has over twenty years of experience in religious education and youth, family life, and pro-life ministries. He has been an Adjunct Professor of Systematic Theology at Immaculate Conception Seminary School of Theology since 2008, teaching courses in the Theology of the Body and in John Paul II’s Sexual Ethics. David is a dynamic speaker and teacher, having delivered presentations on various aspects of the Catholic Faith, including marriage preparation workshops to thousands of engaged couples in local dioceses. David has authored numerous articles and books, including God's Plan for You: Life, Love, Marriage, & Sex (Pauline Books & Media, 2006), and his award-winning book for teens on the Theology of the Body.

Description: This breakout offers an overview of the main ideas expounded in St. John Paul II’s Theology of the Body and why it’s so effective in helping Catholics of all ages understand the human person, human relationships and God’s plan for marriage. Included in this session will be a discussion of various programs and resources available to parishes based on TOB that are recommended for the various stages of marriage preparation, ie. Theology of the Body for Teens, TOB-based chastity programs, and God’s Plan for a Joy-filled Marriage for engaged couples, as well as TOB study groups for married couples.

Target Audience: All

Workshop Number: 15

Title: The FOCCUS Pre-Marital Inventory – A key element in the Marriage Preparation Process

Co-Presenters: Deacon Dennis Slavin and Deacon Kevin O’Boyle; Deacon Denny Slavin has served with his wife, Joan, since the early 1980’s on various ministry teams including his parish Pre-Cana team, Engaged Encounter, the To Trust Again team, and the Retrouvaille retreat team. Ordained a Permanent Deacon in 1991, he served the Department of Youth, Marriage and Family Life until 2012, conducting marriage ministry events and training ministry teams. He is a certified FOCCUS trainer, and holds an MA in Theology from Georgian Court University. Denny also served as an Annulment Advocate, a faculty member for the Ministry of Diaconate, and a Catechist for the Department of Evangelization and Catechesis. His service to the Diocese was recognized in 2007 by Bishop John M. Smith with a Nostrum Ecclesiam Tempus award.
Kevin O’Boyle is a deacon of Our Lady of Sorrows-St. Anthony Parish, Hamilton, NJ, and holds several degrees from Seton Hall University, including a Master of Divinity in Pastoral Theology, an MA in Christian Ethics, a JD (Law), and an MBA. Deacon O’Boyle is a certified FOCCUS trainer and was selected to serve on the Diocese of Trenton Study Commission for Marriage from 2013 to 2014.

Description: This breakout gives an overview of the FOCCUS premarital inventory, where it fits into the marriage preparation process and why it’s so essential when working with engaged couples in the parish. The session will address why pre-marital inventories are used so extensively and why engaged couples find them so helpful. Experienced facilitators will share insights on the benefits of the FOCCUS process and how to use it as an opportunity to evangelize and catechize engaged couples. Presenters will share the particular value of FOCCUS for interfaith couples, co-habiting couples, and couples with children.

Target Audience: Priests, Deacons, Marriage Min teams, Pastoral Assoc. Pre-Cana teams

Workshop Number: 16

Title: Staying Connected with Newly Married Couple

Co-Presenters: Marie Ryan and Eniola Honsberger; Marie has served in a variety of parish and diocesan ministries in the Diocese of Paterson, having recently retired from her role as diocesan Director of Family Life. Marie is a trained instructor in Natural Family Planning and is involved with the Project Rachel post-abortive healing ministry. She has an extensive background in the study of Pope John Paul II’s Theology of the Body, and has recently become a spiritual director. Marie has conducted retreat experiences for couples and has helped to launch couple prayer groups. She and her husband, Maurice, have direct experience with newly married Catholic couples, as three of her four children were married in the past 7 years.

After working in education for five years, Eni Honsberger chose to follow her passion for educating others on the Church’s teaching on and mission to family life. This allows her to work with individuals, couples and families on how to bring God into their daily experiences. Eni brings a wealth of knowledge in bereavement, marriage preparation, Theology of the Body and natural family planning from her previous work with the Archdiocese of Newark, and holds a degree in Psychology and Sociology. She is excited to lead families in their journey to the truth and beauty of God’s teachings.

Description: Being relevant in the lives of newly married Catholics is a great challenge for most parishes in today’s secular culture. This session offers a practical discussion of tried and true practices used in the parish setting to stay connected (or build new relationships) with couples in the early years of marriage, especially between the wedding and birth of the first child.

Target Audience: Priests, Deacons, Pastoral Associates, Marriage Ministry Teams, Pre-Cana Teams, RCIA Teams, Baptism Prep Teams
Workshop Number: 17

Title: The Good News About Catholic Marriage – Changing the Course of the Conversation

Presenter: Deacon Jim Grogan; Having served as a permanent deacon in the Diocese of Trenton, Jim, a widowed father of three sons, discerned a vocation to the priesthood. Upon entering Immaculate Conception Seminary, Jim retired from his role as senior director with SunGard Availability Services’ marketing group in Philadelphia. Jim holds two masters degrees, having studied Systematic Theology at Seton Hall and Theology and Ministry at LaSalle University. Jim is a transitional deacon and seminarian currently assigned to St. Robert Bellarmine Parish in Freehold. Among his parish duties, he holds retreats for adults and married couples to guide them in the development of their prayer lives.

Description: This breakout, based on Catholic apologetics, communicates a positive, compelling message about Catholic marriage. This is not about the restrictive rules but about all the benefits and best qualities of strong and faithful Catholic marriages. Social science confirms that the qualities of happy, healthy marriage correspond to qualities necessary for sacramental marriage. This is great news for couples discerning their adult vocation and all who minister to engaged and married couples.

Target Audience: All

Workshop Number: 18

Title: How to Recruit Great Ministry Volunteers

Presenter: Fr. Martin McGeough; Fr. Martin McGeough, CM; Ordained as a Vincentian priest in 1976, Fr. Marty has enjoyed a vast array of pastoral experiences, including 21 years of parish ministry in Alabama, and 5 years serving the Hispanic Community on Long Island. He was appointed diocesan Coordinator for Jail and Prison Ministry under the Department of Pastoral Care for the Diocese of Trenton in 2012. Known for his memorable, evangelizing homilies at the celebration of morning Mass for Chancery employees, Fr. Marty has successfully recruited and trained a large cohort of dedicated prison ministry volunteers to visit the imprisoned in the 11 facilities throughout the diocese.

Description: – a workshop on the most effective techniques used by pastors and parish leadership to recruit volunteers with energy, dedication, commitment, enthusiasm and discipleship.

Target Audience: Priests, Deacons, Pastoral Associates, Pre-Cana teams, Marriage Ministry Teams
**Workshop Number: 19**

**Title:** The Face of the Catholic Family (Part 1 of 2)

**Presenter:** Michael Theisen (Strong Catholic Families: Strong Catholic Youth): Michael is currently the director of membership services for the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry. Prior to this, Michael spent 13 years of service as the diocesan coordinator of youth ministry for the Diocese of Rochester, New York, and he ministered for eight years at the parish level in Richmond, Virginia, in various roles, including coordinator of youth ministry, director of religious education, and pastoral social worker. Michael has a master's degree in religious education from Loyola University in New Orleans and a master's in social work from Virginia Commonwealth University. Michael has presented around the country at local, regional, diocesan, and national conferences, retreats, and events.

**Description:** Recent research on Catholic family life is both compelling and clear when it comes to the practice of faith among our youth: parents matter… a lot! We know this in our head and feel it in our heart, but many seem to have difficulty translating it to our parish practices. Come and explore through this two-part session the reality of Catholic families today, and some models and strategies for responding to today’s challenges by effectively partnering with parents in order to lead young people (and parents!) toward a vibrant faith that embraces discipleship and the vocational call to serve.

Part one will examine the research and current practices and models that have brought us to where we are and part two will look at strategies and next steps that will lead us forward in a vibrant partnership with parents that will help to bring home the faith, and prepare our youth for their lifelong vocation.

**Target Audience:** All

---

**Workshop Number: 20**

**Title:** The Face of the Catholic Family (Part 2 of 2)

**Presenter:** Michael Theisen (Strong Catholic Families: Strong Catholic Youth): Michael is currently the director of membership services for the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry.

**Description:** This workshop is Part 2 of a two-part session that examines the reality of Catholic family life. Participants of Part 2 will look at strategies and next steps that will lead our parishes forward in a vibrant partnership with parents that will help to bring home the faith and prepare our youth for their lifelong vocation.

**Target Audience:** All
Workshop Number: 21

Title: Marketing 101 – Insights for Catholic Parishes

Presenter: John B. Lord, PhD; Dr. Lord currently serves as Department Chair of Sports Marketing and Entertainment for the Haub School of Business at St. Joseph’s University in Philadelphia. Dr. Lord’s distinguished career at St. Joseph’s has included the roles of professor and chair of Food Marketing, Dean of the College of Business and Administration, and Associate Dean for Graduate Business Programs. He is a national speaker and has authored and co-authored several books and articles on marketing, sports marketing and business, including his most recent publication, Bill Giles and Baseball. Dr. Lord is a practicing Catholic and has been an active member of Our Lady Help of Christians Parish in Abington, PA, since 1960.

Description: According to the American Marketing Association, “Marketing is the activity, set of institutions, and processes for creating, communicating, delivering, and exchanging offerings that have value for customers, clients, partners, and society at large.” The focus is on value: how to create, communicate, and deliver value. For the Catholic Church, it’s harder than ever to compete for the attention of young adult Catholics when it comes to selling the value of lifelong, faithful Catholic marriage. This workshop will discuss the core concepts of marketing strategy – segmentation, targeting and positioning – and how parishes can apply these concepts to communicate the value of choosing sacramental marriage; specifically - what makes Catholic marriage stand out from all the rest!

Target Audience: Priests, Deacons, Pastoral Associates, Parish Staff members

Workshop Number: 22

Title: Preaching the Good News of Catholic Marriage

Presenter: Fr. Thomas Dailey; A priest in the congregation of the Oblates of St. Francis de Sales, Fr. Dailey has been on the faculty of DeSales University in Center Valley (PA) for more than 25 years. There he founded the Salesian Center for Faith & Culture and now holds the Fr. Louis Brisson Chair in Salesian Spirituality. In 2013 he was appointed by Archbishop Charles Chaput as the inaugural John Cardinal Foley Chair of Homiletics & Social Communications at Saint Borromeo Seminary. He earned a doctoral degree in sacred theology (S.T.D.) from the Pontifical Gregorian University (Rome), and has lectured internationally on topics in biblical theology, Salesian spirituality, and Catholic higher education. He has written, edited or translated six books and more than forty articles/chapters in a variety of publications in the USA and abroad.

Description: This session is all about opportunities to uphold the beauty and sanctity of Catholic Marriage in the parish setting. Impactful homilies that affirm married couples and acknowledge
the reality of daily married life are among many ways our priests can make a difference in the lives of married couples and encourage them to participate fully in the sacramental life of the Church.

**Target Audience:** Priests

**Workshop Number: 23**

**Title:** Healing Wounded Relationships – Embracing the Paschal Mystery in Marriage

**Presenter:** Fr. Martin Padovani, SVD, Author of two books—*Healing Wounded Emotions* (Twenty-Third Publications, 1987) and *Healing Wounded Relationships* (Twenty-Third Publications, 2006)—Father Padovani integrates faith with science. A sought-after speaker on relationships and parenting, Father Padovani has been a member of the Society of the Divine Word, the world’s largest Catholic order focused on missionary work, since 1952 and an ordained priest since 1960. A licensed marriage and family therapist in the State of New Jersey, Padovani is a member of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapists.

**Description:** In all marital conflict, both parties must acknowledge how they may have contributed to the problem. Every story has two sides. This breakout will offer the wisdom of a Catholic priest who served for years as a marriage counselor and has helped countless couples heal from marital struggles. He’s also helped individuals who’ve suffered the loss of death or divorce to become whole again before entering a new relationship. Forgiveness, learning to love as God loves and embracing the paschal mystery can help couples triumph over the most difficult situations in marriage.

**Target Audience:** Priests, Deacons, Pastoral Associates, Parish Staff members, Marriage Ministry Teams, Pre-Cana Teams